

A NEW LOCALITY FOR SOLIDAGO SHORTII.—*Solidago Shortii* T. & G. was described from specimens collected by Dr. C. W. Short in 1840 on Rock Island, an island at the Falls of the Ohio River at Louisville, Kentucky. So far as known, the species has not until recently been collected elsewhere.

In September, 1939, the writer discovered *Solidago Shortii* growing in abundance in a rather barren over-grazed hillside pasture in Nicholas County, Kentucky, not far from Blue Licks. This goldenrod attracted attention because it is shorter in stature and stiffer than other members of its group. Its rather rigid glabrous leaves also set it apart from related species. Specimens sent to the Gray Herbarium were compared with Short's material by Mr. Weatherby and Prof. Fernald who verify the determination.

The Blue Licks locality is one hundred miles in a straight line from the type locality. The species is abundant for a short distance north, south, and west of Blue Licks; it occurs in the three counties (Nicholas, Robertson and Fleming) which come together near Blue Licks. A question naturally arises concerning features which may be connected with the distribution of this local endemic species. The seeds of *Solidago* are well adapted to wind dispersal, yet this species is not generally distributed. Certainly there is nothing peculiar or unique in the Blue Licks habitat. In thinking of Rock Island and of Blue Licks, one cannot but conjecture as to the possibility that buffaloes played a part in the dispersal of seed. The Falls of the Ohio are known to have been one of the important crossings of the Ohio River used by countless hundreds of buffaloes. Blue Lick Springs was a focal point of several important buffalo traces. Buffaloes had the peculiar habit of "wallowing" in muddy places, especially about "licks" such as Blue Lick Springs; in this way they became coated with mud which could have contained many seeds. They are known to have traveled rapidly from place to place, often covering great distances. Seed accidentally picked up at either locality could easily have been transported to the other place.—E. LUCY BRAUN, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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